



# CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

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FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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## Seeking the World's Richest Mineral

### MANKIND'S RACE FOR URANIUM

Many a country is now building its atomic pile and from Britain's pile at Harwell we have already produced new substances whose healing properties are benefiting both our own people and those in many lands.

ALL the great nations as well as many minor ones are engaged in intensive search for new sources of uranium, the vital radio-active substance which is today the world's most precious mineral.

The possibilities of atomic power have provided an interesting parallel with the gold rushes

### THE ABSENT DRUMMERS

SUMMER in New South Wales, writes an Australian correspondent, is usually ushered in to the accompaniment of the harsh, insistent drumming of hordes of cicadas. This year that orchestra has been strangely silent. The reason is a scarcity of those noisy insects.

Mischievous Sydney schoolboys love to play pranks with Yellow Mondays, Green Tuesdays, and other varieties of cicadas by introducing their drumming to audiences uninvited. This summer they are having difficulty in finding any of them.

Male cicadas have hollow cavities, partly covered by sounding plates, under their bodies. The sounding plates are vibrated by strong muscles. Young cicadas live for years as grubs in the ground. Then, at last, they come to the surface, shed their skins, and swarm up trees.

of last century, particularly 1849, when prospectors struck rich veins of gold in California. Today, gold being no longer the most-sought-after mineral, the modern prospector searches feverishly for uranium. During 1948 thousands of prospectors, some independent, some working for their respective governments, explored home territories as well as colonies in their search for the precious mineral. Even Polar lands and tropical territories—hills, mountains, plains, and lake and desert regions—were "invaded" and explored. The chief minerals sought were pitchblende and carnotite.

### New Deposits

In the Belgian Congo are pitchblende deposits so rich that they are considered the world's greatest source of uranium; yet during 1948 came the discovery of a new green-coloured radio-active mineral in the Katanga copper mines in the south-east of that colony. Named sengierite, this new mineral contains 60 per cent of uranium.

The other major source of uranium is Canada's Great Bear Lake and Great Slave Lake regions, which were the scene of immense mining activities last year. New deposits were discovered in Northern Saskatchewan, British Columbia, Manitoba,

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## TEA PICKERS WITH TAILS Monkey Business

ALTHOUGH monkeys are usually regarded as mischievous good-for-nothings they can be useful; for some years now, for instance, they have been used at the Botanical Gardens at Singapore to collect specimens of fruit and leaves from the tops of high trees.

Now news comes from China that monkeys are being employed to pick tea; inside a chest of tea which reached the London Docks recently was a paper bearing the words "Special—picked by monkeys."

Human pickers were finding it difficult to reach many of the tea plants growing on high mountain ledges, so monkeys have been trained to do the job. Fitted with harnesses to which long light ropes are attached, they either climb up or are lowered down the face of the cliff to collect the tea leaves in small bags hanging round their necks.

So intelligent are the monkeys that they know at once when the bag is full and respond readily to commands. Of course, they have to be rewarded; a fair day's pay for a fair day's work, and in this case wages are fruit and nuts.

### BOLT FROM THE BLUE

A BOLT fell off a lorry in a busy Glasgow street and embedded itself firmly at the junction of some tram-rails. A tram immediately ran off the rails and pulled down the overhead electric cables. Behind it no less than 60 other tramcars were halted in a long line for over two hours. And all because of a two-inch bolt!

## JANUARY LAMBSCAPE



"Have a care" the ewe seems to be saying as two young ladies cuddle her lambs at Alston, Cumberland.

## Flying Doctor Calling DRAMA BY NIGHT IN THE BUSH

FROM the lonely wilds of Australia there comes the story of a doctor's fight in the face of almost insuperable difficulties for the life of a little black boy.

The man whose skill and resource enabled him to carry out a successful major brain operation while working in the most primitive conditions is Dr Malcolm Ross Milne, of Aberdeen, a member of the Flying Doctor Service in Australia.

One day when Dr Milne was paying a visit to an isolated mission station, which had seen no doctor for three years, he was told of a native boy suffering from a "minor scalp wound." When Dr Milne saw the patient, however, he realised that if the boy's life was to be saved an immediate operation of a delicate and complicated character was necessary.

### Lack of Instruments

To decide on the operation was one thing, to carry it out quite another. For the only "operating theatre" available was the mission schoolroom with a bare wooden table, and lighted simply by a hole in the wall. No brain instruments were at hand, and very few of any others. And the nearest supply of penicillin, which was absolutely necessary to combat the risk of meningitis, was 136 miles away, over very wild country.

Without waste of time Dr Milne called up his supply depot on the "pedal wireless transmitter" and asked for penicillin to be sent by plane. There was no landing-ground in the immediate neighbourhood, so he and some helpers built several fires in a great circle to guide the pilot.

Very soon the operation was skilfully performed in the empty schoolroom, an orderly administering the anaesthetic.

Then they all waited for the arrival of the penicillin.

Hour after hour passed and still there was no sign of the plane. Then, about 1.30 p.m., the listeners in the lonely station heard the sound of a motor engine breaking the silence of the Australian night. They ran out and, to their joy, saw a lorry from the depot drive up to the door. Inside was the precious penicillin.

It appeared that the wireless operators had been unable to call up the plane, and in the emergency had asked for a volunteer to undertake the mission of mercy. "The chap did it in the all-record time of five hours," wrote Dr Milne in a letter home—"136 fearsome miles at dead of night to bring the needed penicillin for this little native boy."

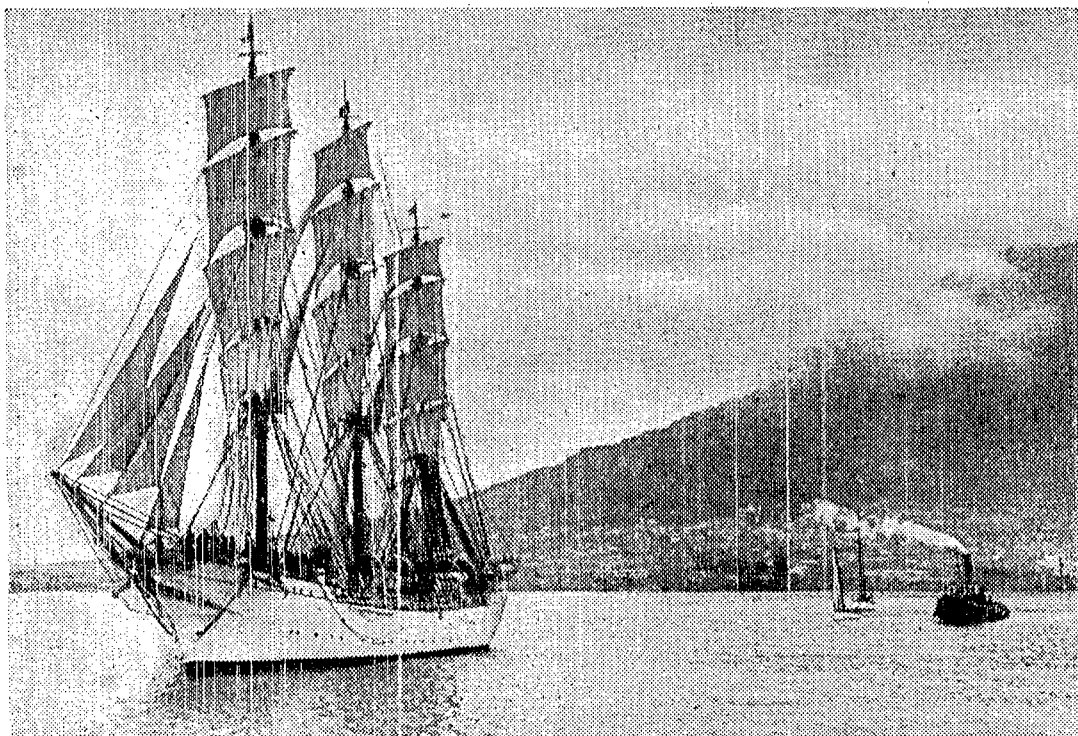
The happy outcome of this tale of devotion was that the patient recovered. Several times he was very near to death, but the penicillin pulled him through, and now he is running about again.

### FACE-SAVING

AN operation has been successfully carried out on the face of Colin Campbell's statue in the busy heart of London. During the war this statue was badly disfigured, but now, thanks to sculptural surgery, the face is as good as new.

Colin Campbell, first Baron Clyde, will always be remembered for the part he played in quelling the Indian Mutiny. The British garrison besieged by the rebels in Lucknow had been relieved by Havelock, but the relieving force itself was too small to fight its way out from the town again, and it was not till the arrival of the veteran Sir Colin Campbell that the gallant defenders could be taken to a place of safety.

## ON THE HOMEWARD VOYAGE



Manned by 117 cadets the full-rigged sailing ship Danmark leaves Cape Town on the return voyage to Copenhagen. In the background the cloud, popularly known as the Tablecloth, can be seen settling over Table Mountain.

## HOME RULE FOR INDONESIA?

The Dutch are meeting with considerable difficulties in Indonesia, that rich, populous area in Asia which they wish to see established as a sovereign state in equal partnership with their Homeland in Europe. There has been fighting in Indonesia recently, the Security Council of the United Nations have pressed for reconciliation between the Dutch and the Republican leaders there, and the Dutch Premier has gone to Batavia to try to hasten federal government.

WHAT is Indonesia? It is a vast archipelago, in South-East Asia in which live 70 million people. Some of these islands, such as Java and Madura, are beautiful and rich, some, as Bali, are well known for the fine appearance of their people, some, as Banka and Biliton, are important sources of tin. Before the war the islands exported vast quantities of rubber, sugar, tea, pepper, and petroleum, and 91 per cent of the world's quinine.

### Dutch Rule

Up to seven years ago the supreme power over the islands was in the hands of the Dutch to whose great business ability and sheer hard work much of their prosperity was due. Unfortunately, the Dutch did not follow British and French colonial policy and did little to encourage a natural evolution towards self-government. So when the Japanese arrived in 1942 they had a relatively simple task in removing the Dutch rule. Many of the Indonesian leaders, in fact, became open collaborators of the Japanese, yet they were not just Japanese agents. At the back of their minds there was always the idea to establish an independent Indonesia at an opportune time, and in any case they were very strongly opposed to return to the old Dutch rule.

But meanwhile, the Dutch, too, had changed their opinions and were ready to give way on many points. In a broadcast shortly after the end of the war Queen Wilhelmina told her Indonesian subjects that "colonialism was dead." Indeed, the Dutch worked out an extremely interesting, if complicated, new constitution for their Empire. It is to consist of three legally equal parts, the Kingdom in Europe, the United States of Indonesia, and the Dutch West Indies and Surinam in the Western Hemisphere. These three parts were to have a status similar to the British Commonwealth countries.

### Causes of Tension

The reorganisation of this Netherlands Union did not, however, prove easy as far as Indonesia was concerned. The Republic of Indonesia, proclaimed soon after Japan's surrender, did not wish to enter into any constitutional agreement with the Netherlands.

Still, thanks to the efforts of Lord Inverchapel, the Indonesians and the Dutch signed the so-called Linggadjati agreement. Its result was that the Dutch recognised the *de facto* authority of the Republic over Java, Sumatra, and Madura, while the Indonesian Republicans agreed to the setting up of a federal United States of Indonesia.

Unfortunately, no real peace resulted from that agreement, and now one, now the other side claimed that its provisions were being violated. Military actions by the Dutch were followed by guerilla attacks by the Republicans. A United Nations Good

## Moving the Miners

THIS year a start is to be made in moving about 2500 miners, with their families, from pits in Lanarkshire to mining areas in the Lothians, Fife, and Ayrshire. The reason is that several pits in Lanarkshire are either exhausted or can be worked only at a loss. In many of the pits the coal seams now left are so narrow that the cost of bringing the coal to the surface is greater than the value of the coal itself.

Such a move of population from one district to another is bound to lead to hardship in certain cases, but the Coal Board is doing everything it can to smooth over the change. Married men will be promised a house in the new area and the cost of removal will be met by the Board. Single men will be attracted by better working conditions in the newly-developed pits. Then to those who are unwilling to leave their homes compensation payments will be made for a period of six months to enable them to find another job. This plan is expected to make the production of coal in Scotland more efficient and economical.

## MANKIND'S RACE FOR URANIUM

Continued from page 1

and Ontario, and the Government paid private prospectors about 11s a pound for the ore.

France, which is building her own atomic pile, draws her raw materials from the island of Madagascar. Russia has permitted the world to learn that she is mining uranium in the Soviet Zone of Germany, as well as in the Ural Mountains and Central Siberia. It was also revealed last year that Russia had obtained by secret treaty from Czechoslovakia complete control of the important uranium mines in Bohemia.

There have been promising discoveries in the United States; in Denmark, on Bornholm Island, and also in her Arctic possession Greenland; in Portugal's East African territory, Mozambique; and in South Africa and Australia.

US prospectors, having exchanged the old-fashioned mules for jeeps and trailers, and sluicing pans and pickaxes for the modern scientific Geiger counters, have successfully located carnotite ores in the States of Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, and Arizona, uranium-light titanium ores in Arkansas, a very rich vein of pitchblende on the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains in Colorado, and other uranium-bearing ores in California and Alaska.

### Australian Resources

During 1948 it became known, also, that the valuable uranium ores near Mt Painter, South Australia, were even more valuable and extensive than was first realised. A Government prospector also discovered new uranium ores in the Dennison Range of South Australia, where the State has reserved some 2600 miles of surrounding country for research of its own.

Though most governments are now encouraging private prospecting for uranium ores by offering large bonuses, one essential condition is that the government concerned shall become the owner of the new mines.

## NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

### Empire Youth Sunday

The King has approved that the date of Empire Youth Sunday shall be fixed each year as the Sunday after Ascension Day. This year it will be on May 29.

Prince Wilhelm of Sweden has presented his castle at Malmoe in the French zone of Germany for use as a university.

Britain's steel output last year, 14,877,000 tons, was a record, and 377,000 tons above the Government's revised "target" figure.

Waxwings, birds from the Arctic, have been seen in Aberdeenshire. Some local people think these birds herald severe weather.

### Surprised Pirates

Chinese pirates recently boarded a river steamer as passengers at Canton, intending to seize it later. Police, hearing of the plot, joined the ship in plain clothes and arrested the pirates as they attempted to seize it.

Deep Sea Rover Scout Samuel Brown of Whitley Bay, recently reported as receiving a Letter of Commendation for his rescue of a man from gas fumes in a ship, has, in fact, been awarded the Scout Gilt Cross.

Work has begun on the new wall on the south bank of the Thames in London. It will be built out into the river at distances of from 60 to 140 feet, reclaiming about 4½ acres, of which part will be used as an open space.

An inspection of the famous lion on one of the buildings due for demolition on the south bank of



the Thames in London. The lion will be preserved when the Exhibition of 1951 is built on the site.

### WORTHY MEMORIAL

A memorial to the late Jan Hofmeyr, South African statesman, is to take the form of a foundation to promote ideals of racial tolerance and collaboration.

Cycling without a stop for 86 hours in West Pakistan recently, Ansar Hussain created a new record.

Unesco is to launch a weekly 15-minute news broadcast. Many hundreds of radio stations are prepared to broadcast a Unesco News Bulletin regularly, either whole or in part.

The United Kingdom's reserves of gold and dollars rose by £20,000,000 to £457,000,000 in the last quarter of 1948.

### Looking the Part

Going to a fancy dress ball as a tramp, a hairdresser of Hinkley, Leicestershire, was so well disguised that several people reported him to the police as a "suspicious-looking character." He won first prize.

Parents of Newport school children who fail to pass their cycling proficiency test after wards get a note from the Chief Constable informing them of the main faults. This does not debar the children from a further test.

A thousand people a day have been visiting the Antarctic Exhibition being held on Captain Scott's old ship Discovery, now a Scout training ship, moored off the Thames Embankment in London. The Exhibition closes on January 29.

### MERCY FLIGHT

Two Italian airmen have flown in stages from Milan to Buenos Aires to appeal for money to build homes for Italy's 15,000 war-mutilated children. On the fuselage of their light aircraft is the text: God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb.

Next September, for the first time, coloured students are to be admitted to London House, a centre for Dominion and Colonial men students.

### National Youth Centre

The National Union of Students have produced a scheme for developing, at the site of the Crystal Palace, London, a national youth centre at a cost of £60,000. The work would be done by youth labour.

Special courses on "Know Your Britain" are to be attended by officers of the Girls Training Corps, so that they may instruct cadets who are to visit Sweden, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, and Norway this summer as guests of girls' organisations in those countries.

### Room For More

The adult European populations of the chief towns of Southern Rhodesia have been officially estimated as: Salisbury, 16,000; Bulawayo, 13,000; Umtali, 2400; Gwelo, 1400; Gatooma, 700; and Que Que, 500.

Earthquake shocks at night in Viterbo, Italy, caused people to run out of their houses. Next morning there was another shock and children had to hurry out of their schools.

Of 100 boys selected for the British Schools Exploring Society's expedition to Northern Norway this year 50 cannot afford to pay their own expenses. £50 is needed for each boy.

A gift of over £2,000,000 has been made to the New York University Bellevue Medical Centre by the Samuel H. Kress Foundation. This will make possible a new era in medical education, said the Chancellor of the University.

### No Extra Charge

A Maidstone woman found a tiny live octopus in a pound of sprats bought at a local shop.

Professor Adolf Butenandt and Professor Richard Kuhn, two German scientists, are to receive the Nobel prizes for chemistry which they were awarded before the war but were not allowed to take by the Nazis.

The US Air Force Bell X-1 rocket aircraft recently took off for the first time under its own power and rose to a height of 23,000 feet (nearly 4½ miles) in 1 minute 40 seconds. The British Beryl-Meteor twin-jet fighter has climbed to a height of 7½ miles in 7½ minutes.





### On the Mark

The A A A recently held a four-day course for schoolboy athletes at Motpur Park, Surrey. Here we see a coach instructing the boys in the use of the sprint starting traps.

### Africa's Water

IN a newly-published survey of the water resources of Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, and the Bechuanaland Protectorate, Professor Debenham, of Cambridge University, has suggested the appointment of a scientist-technician of a new kind to tackle the problem of Africa's water supply. This problem must be solved before the spare lands of the great continent can help with the world's food problem.

"His task will be to make the intermittent streams of Africa run for two days where they formerly ran for one; to track down the sudden local torrents of rain which flood square miles of land and then sink through the deep sand, till they are caught and held in natural reservoirs far below the deserts."

Professor Debenham also recommends courses for training Africans in the simpler constructions required for water development and the establishment of electro-magnetic apparatus to find the damp sand beneath the Kalahari Desert.

### JET SHIP

WHILE engineers in many countries are experimenting with models of jet-propelled marine turbines, with a view to developing them for use in fair-sized ships, the British Admiralty has stepped in and ordered a full-size model.

It is the largest marine gas turbine ever ordered in Britain, and is being constructed by the English Electric Company. Chiefly experimental, it will be installed in one of H.M. "Captain" class frigates, and in order to compare its operation with steam machinery it will be thoroughly tested.

### STAMP NEWS

AUGUST STRINDBERG, the renowned dramatist, born 100 years ago, is commemorated by new Swedish stamps bearing his portrait.

JAMAICA is soon to have a £1 stamp, the highest value ever used in the island.

POLAND has issued four stamps with a surcharge to help in the fight against tuberculosis.

A RECENT Philippines issue depicts their national flower emblem, the Sampaquita.

## INTRODUCTION TO CITIZENSHIP

THE privilege of citizenship is one that carries important responsibilities which are not always recognised. The Swiss have a ceremony of initiation into citizenship to emphasise its importance, and now the Hartlepool Borough Council have approved an experiment with the same purpose.

The next preliminary electoral register is to be scanned to discover newly-qualified electors. Most of these will probably have become of age since the previous register, and to each will be sent a letter signed by the Mayor and the local M.P. This will welcome the new voter into citizenship with its privileges and responsibilities, and will invite the voter and a friend to dinner and an entertainment to mark the occasion. The Mayor and Mayoress and Council members will act as hosts, and appropriate speeches will be made. Each new citizen will receive an illuminated message as a memento.

### SAFER SIGNALS

A NEW type of electric signalling at Doncaster is the first of its kind in the world. Two all-electric signal boxes replace six mechanical boxes, and the most obvious difference is that there are no levers. Instead, the signalling is controlled from a great polished black panel on which coloured lights show the position of each train, signal, and sets of points.

No train can enter a section already occupied by another train as signal lights and points will be automatically set against a second train. The system is held to be foolproof. Even as little as one-sixteenth of an inch fault in the points position will be automatically shown, as well as icing of points. Even in foggy weather the signalman will have a complete picture of the train movements.

### GOOD SPORTSMAN

R. MATHIAS, the 17-year-old United States athlete who was in this country for the Olympic Games when he won the Olympic decathlon, has just been awarded the James E. Sullivan Memorial Trophy. This is awarded to the U.S. amateur athlete, "who, by performance, example, and good influence, did most to advance the cause of good sportsmanship during 1948."

### Pig Tale

WHEN a fire broke out at a farm in Ross-shire recently six little pigs were so paralysed with fright that they would not come out from their blazing sty. Then the head girl, Rosalind Finlayson, who has a name for every pig on the farm, ran through the smoke and flames and called out the names of the trapped piglets. All but one at once followed the sound of her voice to safety.



There is no escape from lessons for the young dancers in pantomime ballet! These pictures were taken behind the scenes at one of the London theatres where, by regulation, the fairies must have teachers and matrons responsible for their welfare.

## Birth of a University

A NEW university to which students will travel every term hundreds of miles by schooner or by air has just received its Royal Charter. It is the University College of the West Indies. At present it consists of huts outside Kingston, Jamaica, which during the war were used for refugees, but a beginning has been on the erection of its fine permanent buildings, and the whole University College, including a hospital, is expected to cost some £2,250,000.

Its students will be of at least six different races and they will come to this splendid new seat of learning from the scattered

islands of the West Indies, from British Honduras, and British Guiana—indeed from homes in an area covering two million square miles.

Already the university's Medical Faculty, with 33 students, is in being, and it is hoped to establish this year the Faculty of Science, and next year the Faculty of Arts. Connected with the Arts Faculty will be the study of Caribbean history, offering great opportunities for research.

The Principal of the University is Dr T. W. J. Taylor, formerly a Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford. Several distinguished West Indians have been appointed to senior posts.

### Damask For the Abbey

A RARE and beautiful frontal hanging has been presented to Westminster Abbey for the Altar of the Holy Cross. It is of hand-woven mohair damask and is thought to date from the early years of last century, when Perthshire had an almost exclusive monopoly of a now vanished industry. There are few examples of embroidered mohair damask—made from the fine hair of the Angora goat—in existence today, and this gift to the Abbey is considered to be one of the finest.

In the centre of this frontal Christ is portrayed on the Cross Triumphant, and among the other figures are St Helena, St Joseph of Arimathea, the Virgin Mary, St John, Mary Magdalene, and St Andrew.

### CURIOUS TOAST

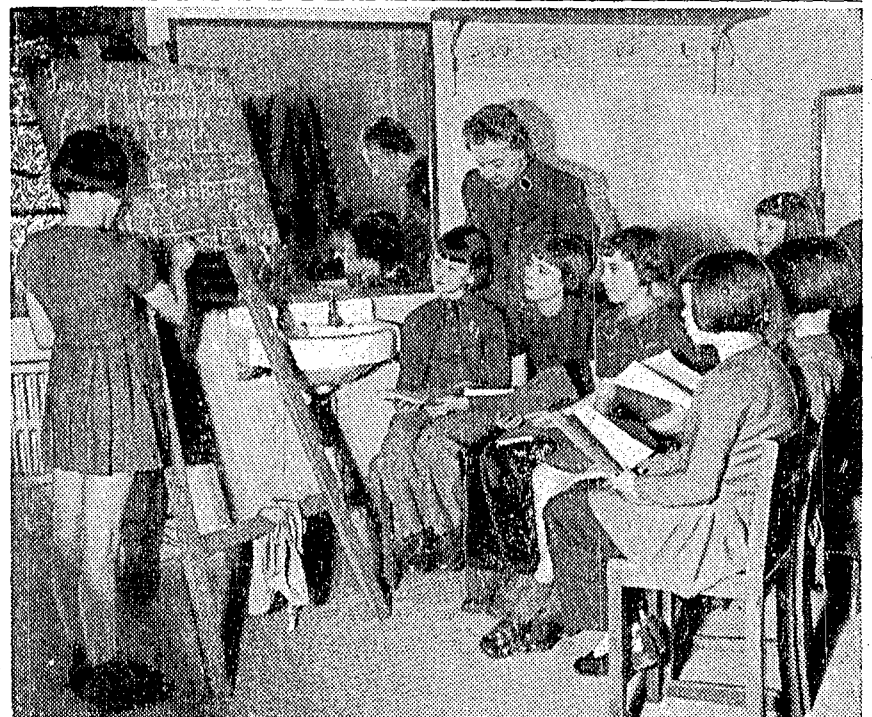
A CORRESPONDENT in the journal of the Society for Army Historical Research has been inquiring about the strange custom observed by the officers of a regiment quartered at Edinburgh Castle early last century.

Every evening after dinner the officers stood up and drank a toast to "A clean sword and a dirty Bible"—an expression of hope that their swords would ever be drawn in a cause that was righteous and that their Bibles would be frayed and dirty with constant use. Although the words of this striking toast have survived, all efforts to trace the regiment concerned have been unsuccessful.

### School For Fairies

### HIGHBROWS

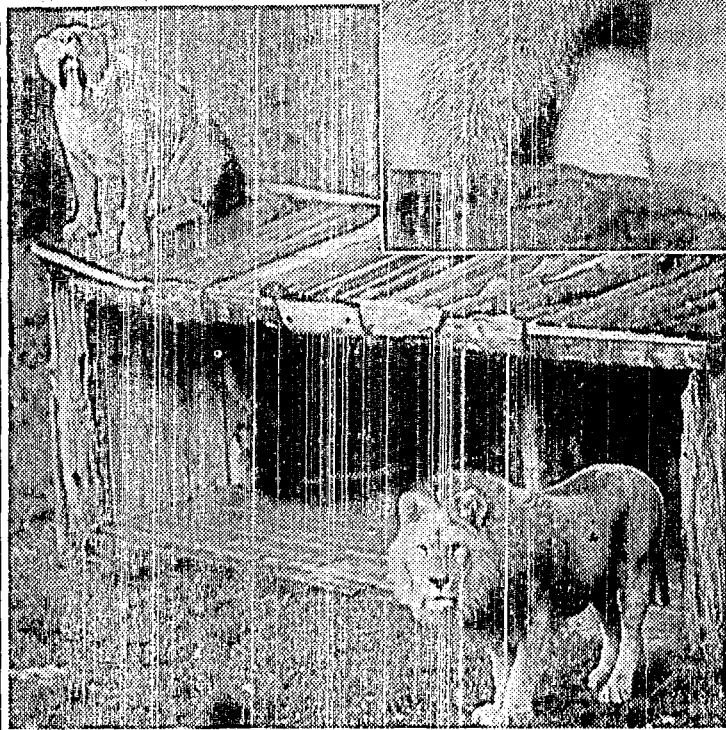
INVERNESS Royal Academy Outdoor Club have held a meeting on the highest spot in Britain—on the roof of the old observatory on the snow-clad summit of Ben Nevis.



## EXCUSE MY YAWN!

"You've told me that story before," rudely yawns Mischa, the London Zoo polar bear, at his wife, Susie.

Below, Albert, the lion at Whipsnade, seems to be saying to us, "I've told Annette the funniest stories I know, and she just yawns her head off!"



## Our Precious Celestine

BENEATH the pastures of South Gloucestershire is found a certain pinkish white stone which fetches many thousands of much-needed dollars. It is called "celestine" and contains a metal called strontium.

Although strontium is not a rare metal there are not many places in the world where it is easy and cheap to extract. In this country there are only a few places where the metal is found, one being the village of Strontian in Scotland, where it was first discovered, and another near the picturesque Gloucestershire hamlet of Goosegreen.

Celestine, which looks like coarse-grained pink-and-white marble, is found in horizontal layers a few feet beneath the surface of the fields. The layers are not composed of sheets of the stone but of big nodules like footballs. The deposits are scattered over several miles and the fields are scamed with open trenches. As each deposit is used up, so that particular trench is abandoned, for soil to be filtered in and grass to grow over it, leaving only a hollow. The stone is sometimes blasted out, but often merely prised out with picks. The largest nodules are broken down and piled up in mounds by the roadside, to be taken in lorries to the mill at Goosegreen, where it is ground into small chips.

When the nodules are broken open, large glassy crystals are often found. The celestine chips are freed of the dirt by being placed in large revolving drums which are heated with oil burners. As air is sent through the drums the mud dries rapidly and is sucked away as dust.

At the end of the process the ore emerges as coarse grit, nearly white but with a pink tinge. In this form it is put into sacks and sent to the port of Avonmouth for shipment to America.

Why is the pink stone so valuable? In America it is used for purifying and whitening cane sugar. The ground-up ore, strontium sulphate, is heated with blasts of superheated steam, which converts it into a substance called strontium hydroxide. This powder, which is almost completely insoluble in water, is used in the sugar refining.

Celestine was also used during the war, and still is to a lesser extent, as a pigment in paint. It has a good covering power, but cannot be used in white paint on account of the pink tinge. Substances containing strontium will colour flame a most vivid crimson, and for this reason it is used for ship and aircraft signal flares.

## A Castle Built of Snow

WHATEVER the near future may have in store for us, the early part of winter has been singularly free from snow over most of the country. But when snow does come there are always many elderly folk who recall the famous snow castle of Settle in the West Riding of Yorkshire. It was built after the great blizzard of 1886 which raged for two nights and a day without cessation.

Being unable to work because of the snow, which lay in 20-foot drifts in many places, the quarrymen of Settle began to build the castle in the town square to pass the time and amuse the children. The snow castle was on the most palatial scale. There was a main hall, with side chambers opening from it. The walls were battlemented and included several turrets. To support the weight of snow the roof was strengthened with stout beams of wood. Over the doorway the date, was neatly picked out with small pieces of coal.

CN ZOO CORRESPONDENT TELLS US . . .

## Why the Children's Zoo Has Not Been Disbanded

THOUGH the Children's Zoo at Regent's Park is temporarily closed, it is a livelier place this winter than usual for, contrary to general practice, the stock has not been disbanded. Whether the animals—mainly goats, sheep, ponies, donkeys, a couple of llamas, and numerous birds—miss their public, it would be hard to say. But the behaviour of one of the 18 goats suggests they do.

Belita is a common goat born in the enclosure last year. Her determination to attract visitors, and her cunning in the methods she is adopting, is astonishing even the staff. For as soon as this wily animal sees anyone passing the enclosure she insinuates herself—often at the risk of getting a bruised rib!—into the revolving gate (temporarily tied up), and there, in one of the four "compartments," she stands, looking as pathetic as she can.

### Occasional Visitors

Her action is drawing big dividends, too. For almost everyone, seeing Belita caught up (as they think) inside the gate, takes pity on her and hands her some food through the bars.

Nor would it be quite true to say that the enclosure, this winter, is entirely without visitors. For occasionally some little boy or girl who has been a regular visitor during the busy summer

months, is recognised by a member of the staff, who takes the little visitor to see some favourite animal—usually one of the riding ponies now "in stables," and the animal is of course delighted to be petted again and given titbits.

But, though there are none of the summertime activities going on in the enclosure, there is quite a lot of work for the staff. In one paddock, for example, are kept seven she-goats, all of which are being milked regularly every day. Their milk is collected by one of the big London dairies and is then delivered by them to any hospital specially needing goat's milk.

"Sometimes we get a gallon or more from the animals," Miss Peggy Mann, one of the assistants, told me. "When the milk is not required by hospitals, we send it across to the Zoo sanatorium, where it is used in the feeding of sick or baby animals."

Best milker of the lot is the common goat Nancy. Nancy was presented to the menagerie two years ago and gives a steady yield all the year round, though naturally her daily output is highest during spring.

Finally, here is some good news for all those young people—and last year 413,960 of them visited the enclosure—who love the Children's Zoo. The section will reopen this year much earlier than usual—probably early in March, or even before if the weather is kind. As a rule it does not reopen until about May.

"That is why we have not disbanded the animals this winter," a Zoo official explained to me. "Keeping the animals in stock we shall now be all ready to reopen at the earliest possible moment. There will be plenty here to amuse children, though we shall naturally have to wait a month or two for the season's new 'bottle babies' and other young animals from the countryside."

The 1949 Children's Zoo, moreover, will have several new features, notably in the Exhibition Hall, where those ever-popular Mousetown and Submarine (aquarium) exhibits are now being completely redesigned.

C. H.

## Students Unveil the Roman Past

YOUNG British students recently excavating the ancient Roman city of Sabratha, near Tripoli, on the north coast of Africa, found there a link with their own country—the base of a monument to the great Roman Emperor Septimius Severus, who died at York A.D. 211, after repairing Hadrian's Wall and losing, it is said, 50,000 men in three years while fighting the Scots to the north.

Septimius Severus was a native of this North African region, for he was born at Leptis Magna, 100

miles along the coast to the east of Sabratha. He was the first Roman Emperor to learn Latin as a foreign language. This eagerness of the sunny Mediterranean coast who was fated to break his heart among the mists of Caldonia, spoke as his mother-tongue Punic, the language of the Carthaginians.

The work of the students, guided by experienced archaeologists, was described, not long ago, in a lecture by Mr J. B. W. Perkins, Director of the British School in Rome who, with Miss Kathleen Kenyon, was in charge of the excavations.

Much digging had already been done by the Italians, but the task of the British was to trace the growth of Sabratha from a small Phoenician harbour, before the overthrow of Carthage in Rome, to an important Roman commercial seaport with roads leading to it along the coast and from the interior of Africa over which goods were brought for export.

### Preserved by Sand

One singular aspect of the north African trade in Roman times was revealed at the port of Leptis Magna. Here the young students drew plans of a wonderful Roman bath building which had been excellently preserved because it had lain buried under sandhills. Paintings of these baths seem to indicate that they belonged to an association of animal-trappers whose business—doubtless a lucrative one—was to catch African wild beasts alive and send them by sea to various places to fight in the barbarous Roman circuses.

In Sabratha the labours of the students were increasingly rewarded as they put together the fascinating story of the former life of this dead city. The traced, for example, how the basilica had finally developed into a Roman church. Originally it had been a meeting place for merchants and a law court.

Near the basilica is the Roman forum which had included two temples—one for the worship of Serapis, an Egyptian god given a Greek name, and the other for the worship of Liber Pater, another name for Bacchus, the god of wine. Here indeed can visualise the people of ancient Sabratha forsaking their pagan gods for the Christian faith.

## Continental Speed-Up

FREIGHT trains running between various European countries are to be speeded up. They carry valuable perishable goods such as fruit, vegetables, and fish, and new running times have just been fixed at a conference in Rome attended by 60 representatives of 19 nations.

Italian fruit trains, which are now a familiar sight on the Southern Region of British Railways, have been taking 53 hours for the journey from Italy to London. They are now timed to take only 36 hours. The journey from Italy to Stockholm will take 107 hours instead of 130, and to Copenhagen 87 instead of 109. Trains from Tarvisio in Italy's Julian Alps will reach Prague in 44 hours, a reduction of 26 hours; and Vienna will be reached in 11 hours instead of 43.

Make Sure of  
NEXT WEEK'S CN  
Place Your Order Now



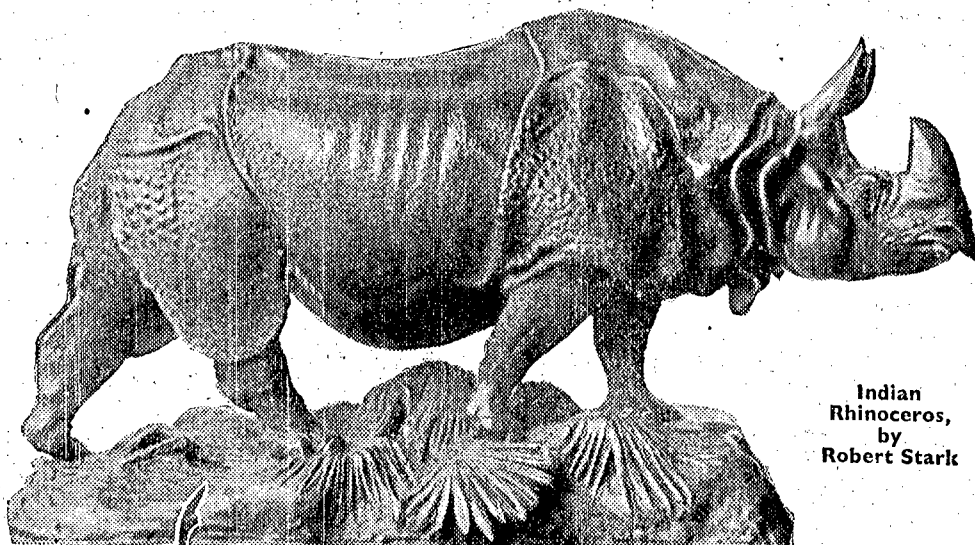
Feeding a pony in winter quarters



# British Sculpture Old and New on Show in Piccadilly



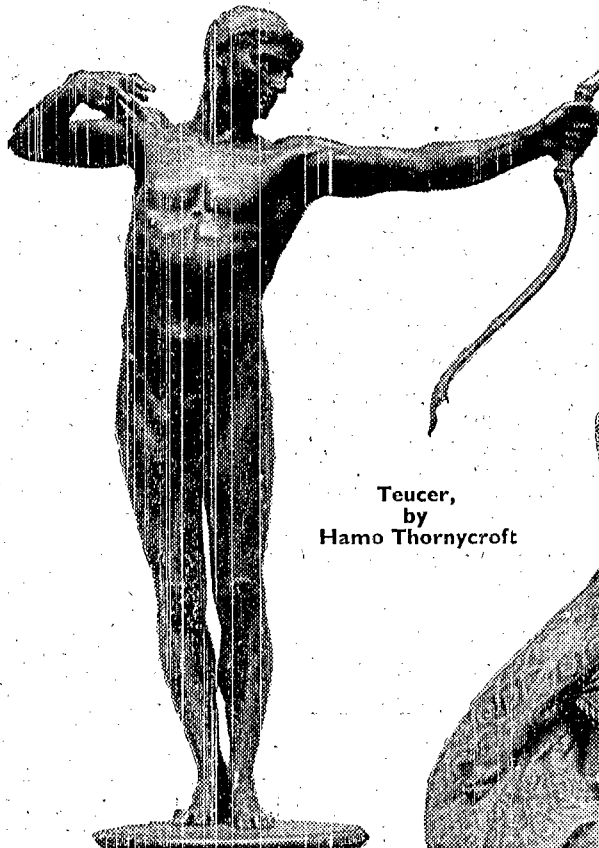
Paderewski,  
by Alfred Gilbert



Indian  
Rhinoceros,  
by  
Robert Stark



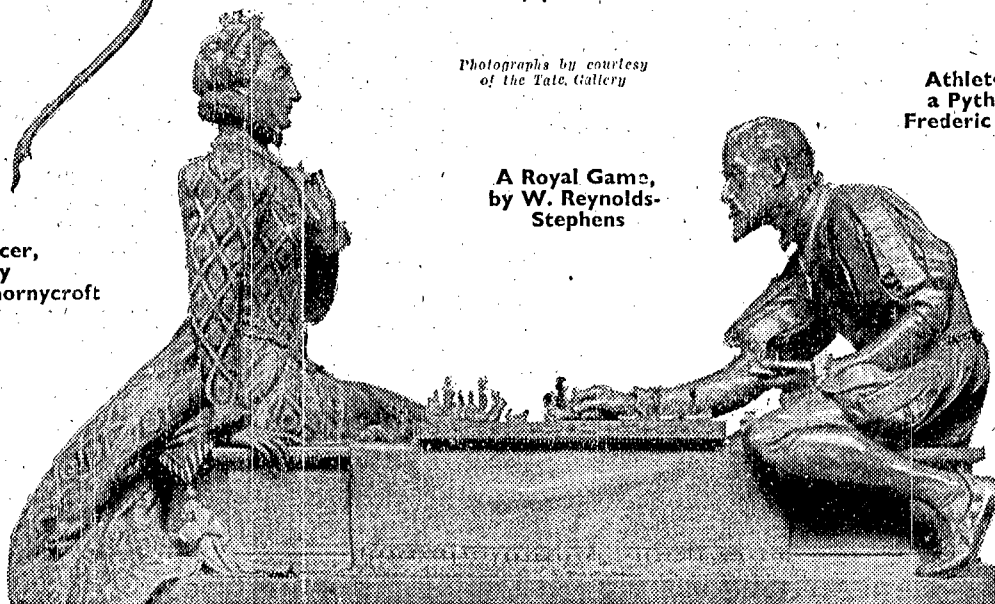
Albert Einstein,  
by Jacob Epstein



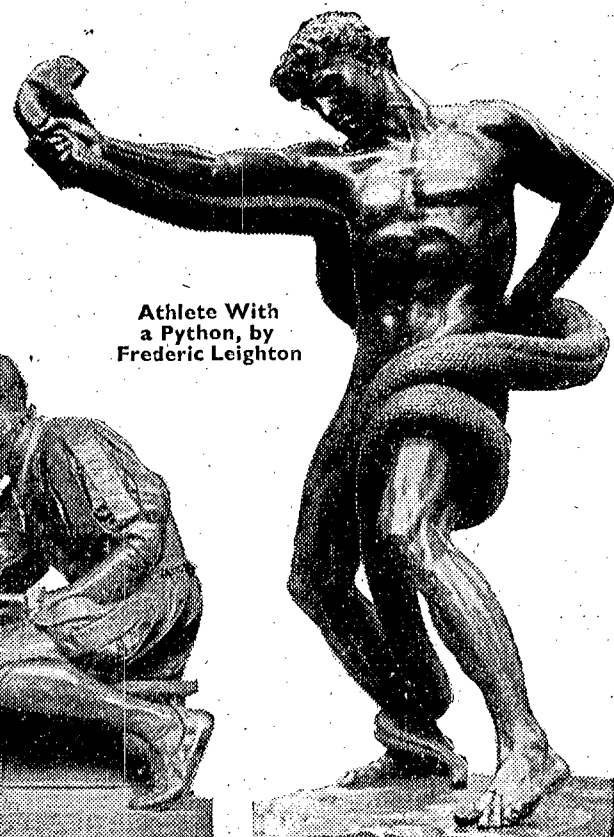
Teucer,  
by  
Hamo Thornycroft

In Piccadilly Circus is Sir Alfred Gilbert's statue of Eros. Now we can see in Piccadilly the sculptor's original miniature study for the world-famous figure—without wings or bow. It is in the Chantrey Bequest Exhibition at the Royal Academy, where, for the first time, all the works in the collection are being shown together. On this page we give a few of the striking examples of British sculpture purchased by the trustees of the fund during the last seventy years.

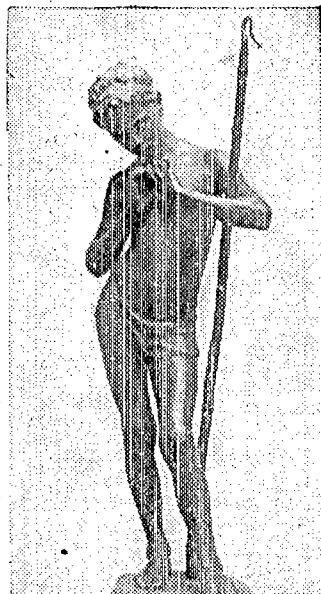
Photographs by courtesy  
of the Tate Gallery



A Royal Game,  
by W. Reynolds-  
Stephens



Athlete With  
a Python, by  
Frederic Leighton



Shepherd, by Mortimer Brown



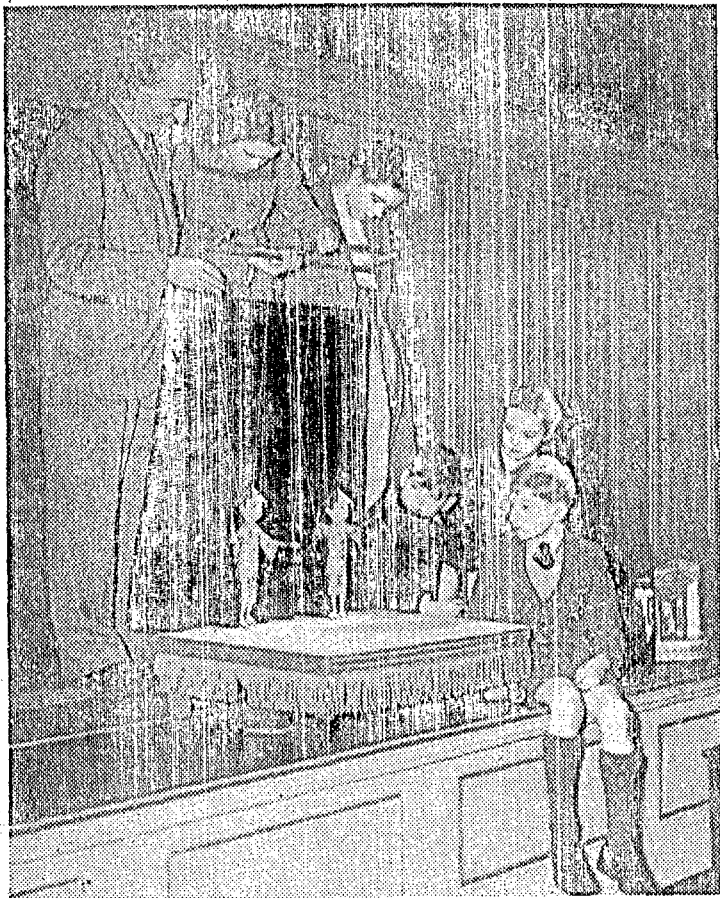
Sea Lion, by Richard Garbe



Sigurd, by Gilbert Bayes



Boy at Play, by W. Goscombe John



### Puppet Play

At a lecture on Puppets, at the Royal Society of Arts, London, the children saw a film and a demonstration of a puppet theatre. In this picture Mr Waldo S. Lanchester is showing some of the boys and girls how the little figures are manipulated.

## Pass the Monosodium, Please!

A CHEMICAL with a difficult name which may soon find its way into our cruets, next to the pepper and salt, is monosodium glutamate; it is a substance that tastes very faintly like salt and intensifies the flavour of food by stimulating the taste buds of the tongue. During the war it was produced in limited quantities for use in "K" rations which were carried by soldiers on prolonged and isolated operations; now it is being manufactured in America for domestic use, for food processing, and for the canning industry.

Monosodium glutamate makes good food taste better and poor food taste worse. It acts somewhat as a very powerful radio receiver might, picking up "radio" signals in the taste field that otherwise might be missed,

and sharpening the ordinary taste signals.

Chemically it is a salt of glutamic acid which was discovered by a German chemist over seventy years ago, though for centuries before this the Chinese had been using much the same product in an impure form. They ground up a certain type of seaweed that was rich in the substance and used it to heighten the flavour of their rather dull diet of fish and rice. The first patented method of producing it was used in 1908 in Japan and marketed as a product called Ajinomoto (essence of flavour).

It may be used in any dish without changing the standard recipe, and neither cooking nor canning weakens its power to heighten flavour. It can be added before, during, or after cooking with much the same effect.

## ANALYSING THE COTTON BALE

UP to five per cent of a bale of raw cotton is not cotton at all, but waste matter such as stalks, leaf, seed coatings, and dust. An estimate of the amount of such waste existing in each bale is made before it is bought, but such an estimate is rarely accurate because it is made by eye. A mistake of even one half of one per cent can cause a serious loss when bales are bought by the thousand.

There has long been an acute need for something that will give more accurate estimates, and the answer to the problem now seems to have been found in the laboratories of the British Cotton Industry Research Association at the Shirley Institute, Manchester. An ingenious machine called the Shirley Analyser has been pro-

duced which indicates the amount of pure cotton by completely separating it from the waste. It does this by utilising the difference in buoyancy between the cotton fibre and the waste in moving air. The raw cotton is fed into the machine and introduced into a uniform, controlled stream of air. The heavy waste falls through this stream into a receiving tray, but the more buoyant fibres of cotton are swept on by the stream to a collecting drum.

The two are then weighed separately, and thus the proportion of waste in a single bale is known. If the bales all belong to the same consignment the percentage of waste in the one which has been tested is taken as that for the whole.

## Where Do You Live?

THE origin of names is one of the most fascinating of all geographical studies; and the most attractive book on the subject that we have ever seen is English Place-Names, by H. G. Stokes (Batsford 12s 6d).

Admirably produced, illustrated, and indexed, this is an entertaining book, gently skimming a subject which has a whole literature to itself; the English Place-Name Society, for instance, are publishing a complete survey, county by county.

In modern times many names have been chosen arbitrarily. But in the old days every name was chosen for a reason; every name was truly descriptive, whether it was Oxted (or Oakstead), the place where oaks grew, or the more intriguing Wallop, which, as the author explains, had nothing to do with punishing the bad boy of the village, but was anciently Wiell-hop, and never anything more violent than a valley with a stream!

In the realm of place-names, as elsewhere, things are not always what they seem. Aldwinkle, for instance, was originally the corner (wincle) occupied by a man called Ealda; and Popeshall, which sounds so like a papal home, derives from the poplar tree in a sheltered hollow of the hills (hale).

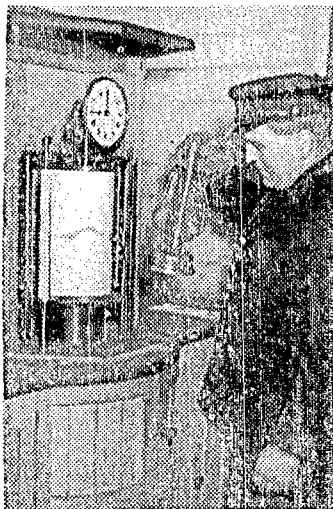
Such examples as these—and there are many hundreds in Mr Stokes's book—give some idea of the interest and complexity surrounding the place-names in this land; and, of course, there is also a wealth of legend to be explored.

Whoever dips into this book will surely read it from end to end, and incidentally learn a great deal more about Old England. How many people, for instance, even know how the village, town, or city in which they live first got its name?

### Repeat Performances

A SOUTH SHIELDS firm is now producing a new home recorder which enables listeners to make a permanent recording of any radio programme, so that it can then be repeated as often as desired. Most of the new recorders are for export, but a few will be seen on the home market.

### WORKERS' PARADE



The lock-keeper at Teddington watches the Rivergraph which records the flow of water in the River Thames.

## The Editor's Table

### LAUGHTER'S REALM

FOREIGNERS who do not understand the British people often describe us as dull and humourless, as though the race which produced Falstaff, Dan Leno, and Tommy Handley could ever be without

*Jest and youthful jollity,  
Quips and cranks, and wanton  
wiles,  
Nods, and becks, and wreathed  
smiles.*

The truth, of course, is that Laughter's Realm has no boundaries or restrictions; it knows no frontiers, and allows every kind and condition of the human family to be its subjects.

THE greatest observers of the human scene from Shakespeare onwards have loved to see "laughter holding both his sides," scattering wrinkled care and heavy anxiety. Laughter is able to prick the bubble of inflated dignity, to dispose of pomposity without wounding. It is a solvent for tense moments and angry scenes, pours oil on troubled waters. Without it life would be drab indeed, and the sudden passing of Tommy Handley from our midst made most of us realise how much we owe to the laughter-makers.

A merry heart goes all the day, so let us have more merry hearts. Let us laugh more with each other and, above all, let us learn to laugh at ourselves—and enjoy being laughed at. "He who cannot be laughed at," once remarked a wise man, "is missing the true happiness of life."

IN Laughter's realm the currency is the jest, the joke, the "wisecrack," the bubble of good fun. In Laughter's realm everyone is a friend. In Laughter's realm everyone is welcome, and the only passport needed is a merry heart.

### Our Two Angels

THERE are two angels that attend unseen  
Each one of us, and in great books record  
Our good and evil deeds. He who writes down  
The good ones, after every action closes  
His volume, and ascends with it to God.  
The other keeps his dreadful day-book open  
Till sunset that we may repent; which doing,  
The record of the action fades away,  
And leaves a line of white across the page. Longfellow

### THE RIGHT MEDICINE

PHYSIC is of little use to a temperate person, for a man's own observation on what he finds does him good, and what hurts him, is the best physic to preserve health.

Francis Bacon

## Children of Western Union

To make the European Western Union a reality, it is essential that the peoples of the different countries in it should move from bare acquaintanceship to warm friendliness. This can best be achieved through their educational systems.

It is encouraging to see movements in this direction. This year teams of school inspectors from France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxemburg are to visit this country to see how our education is organised; and there are to be refresher courses for British teachers in Paris, Rome, Norway, Germany, and West Africa. In addition, there is to be a course for teachers of the five countries which signed the Brussels Pact; they will consider the educational foundations of Western Union.

In announcing these arrangements recently, Sir John Maule, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education, said he hoped they would enable teachers to take practical steps to excite the curiosity and widen the neighbourliness of the children.

### TWO MILTONS

MILTON ABBAS in Dorset is one of England's loveliest villages, memorable for its orderly planning and quiet beauty. Across the Atlantic in Massachusetts there is another Milton which likes to look on the older Milton as mother.

From Dorset many seekers of new fortune have sailed across the Atlantic to the New World, and some years ago a stone from the Norman abbey of Milton was sent to the daughter village to be the corner-stone of the new church there. This year the American rector hopes to visit the village from whence came so many precious associations for him and his people.

The two Miltons are united in the same love of freedom and particularly in the same Christian faith. The Norman arch stone a symbol of true friendship.

## Under the



PETER PUCK  
WANTS TO KNOW  
If photographers  
have taking ways

A POET says certain people cannot understand his work. Seemingly bit uncertain.

IN the country a person can live on next to nothing, declares a writer. If he has a detached cottage.

SOME children take after their parents. Ill-mannered ones grab what they want first.

EALING Studios have a mechanic baby for their films. A roaring success.

SHORT hair does not go with hats, says a lady fashion writer. Usually goes with being cut.



## NEW ZEALAND HOUSE

It is good news that New Zealand is to have a worthy headquarters in the heart of London.

The present inadequate offices in the Strand have served their purpose overlong, and the site for the new building on the corner of Haymarket and Pall Mall will present a magnificent opportunity to an architect. Canada, South Africa, Australia, and India have London "homes" which are among the finest buildings in the capital, and we may be sure that New Zealand will eventually have similar cause for pride.

## Neater Notices

LOCAL authorities, the C N is glad to see, now have powers to control local notice-boards—that rash of boards of all shapes and sizes which afflicts every village and town in the country.

A C N correspondent recently counted 14 different kinds of notices advertising one small café in a Devon village. Most of them were ugly and badly lettered. Regulations are now laid down about the size and shape of notice-boards, including church notice-boards which the Bishop of Winchester believes need, in many places, a fresh and neat hand to them. Indeed, the new order is a challenge to all to make notices neater and natter; and, moreover, the local authority can compel them to do so.

As for those who merely look at notices, we shall all take more notice if the notice is neatly done. As the Bishop remarks, neater and nicer notices "offer scope to some artistically-minded younger lad or girl."

Let us by all means see the work of our new notice makers; may its standard become higher and higher.

## JUST AN IDEA

As it is written in Ecclesiasticus, Health and good estate of body are above all gold, and a strong body above infinite wealth.

## Editor's Table

SCOTLAND YARD has a School of Detectives at Hendon. The masters have to detect the likeliest students.

STRAINED vegetables for babies are advertised. Do mothers strain a point to get them.

THE total number of outstanding applications for telephones is 475,105. People in the kiosks should hurry up.

A MAN wants to know how much it would cost him to run a yacht. Why doesn't he sail it?



IN the matter of reading, says a school-master, children should be given plenty of rope. Then they can skip.

## THINGS SAID

WHEN one studies the economic difficulties of Britain today, there seems to be only one answer for everyone . . . and that is work.

Lord Montgomery

KNOWLEDGE and sympathetic understanding are essential conditions for breaking down the barriers and prejudices which divide peoples and cause bitter strife.

The Pope

It is to Britain that the world looks for leadership.

Prime Minister of Northern Ireland

IF our people, or any sections of them, were now to try to grab larger money incomes it would lead to our inevitable failure—with all that that means for the future of our country and of world democracy.

Sir Stafford Cripps

## The Best Kind of Discipline

OUR campaign for economic recovery was described recently as "one of the greatest national efforts ever seen in times of peace." The speaker was a distinguished American, Mr Thomas K. Finletter, the U S Minister in charge of the Economic Co-operation Mission to the United Kingdom.

He went on to say that the way in which we have kept down home consumption "is a masterful performance of self-discipline . . . it is only this quality of a determined nation to see it through which makes possible the recovery of the country."

Mr Finletter's encouraging words of praise are a reminder that self-discipline, the kind that is accepted voluntarily, is the only kind that has any real value.

## THE OLD SCHOOL

EDUCATIONAL authorities have been renaming schools previously known only by the name of the street in which they stand, but it is said that both scholars and staffs seem reluctant to adopt the new and more romantic titles.

Nobody need be surprised at this, for we British cling stubbornly to old familiar names and look askance at new ones. The roots of our people are so deep in the past that it is characteristic of us to resent change for the sake of change.

The Old Etonian and the Old Boy of Blank Street School can rub along happily together, each taking a proper pride in his old school, and neither seeking to alter the name of the other's school for better or for worse.

## WHATE'ER MAY COME

COME wealth or want, come good or ill, Let young and old accept their part,

And bow before the awful Will, And bear it with an honest heart, Who misses or who gains the prize.

Go, lose or conquer as you can; But if you fail, or if you rise, Be each, pray God, a gentleman.

W. M. Thackeray



## From France

Breton folk-dancers, in London for the Folk Dance Festival, perform one of their picturesque dances

## TOWARD CHEAPER GOLF

IN an effort to persuade golfers to discard their rarely-used clubs the English Golf Union have requested club secretaries to stage a competition this month wherein the players use only seven clubs. This is a much-needed move to reduce the cost of golf and restore its declining popularity, writes our sporting correspondent.

Golf has become so expensive today that it is getting beyond the means of the young player. Would-be players, too, are deterred from starting the game by the price of the dozen or so clubs that are considered necessary.

It will, no doubt, be difficult to persuade the older golfer, with his array of clubs, that he can play just as well, if not better, with only seven; but perhaps these competitions will convince him that he could enjoy his game far more if, by discarding his seldom, if ever, used clubs, he had a lighter bag to carry. It might also mean the disappearance of those caddies who have never troubled to learn their skilled job and are mere bag carriers.

The LCC, too, is helping to lessen the cost to young players by reducing the rates for play for schoolchildren at Beckenham Place Park and Hainault Forest. During school holidays boys and girls can apply for special season tickets for play on weekdays.

These are steps in the right direction.

## Running a Temperature

WHILE to us in Britain spring still seems a long way off, the South Africans are growing rather weary of their summer. There has been a flaming heat-wave over many parts of the country, and at one place, Onseepkans, on the Orange River, the thermometer not long ago went up to the frizzling height of 125 degrees in the shade.

Doctors found that if they were not quick in reading it when taken from a patient's mouth, a thermometer would go up several degrees, owing to the temperature of the air being higher than that of a human body (about 98.4 at normal). Any time spent in turning the thermometer to see the mercury meant that the patient was shown as having an astronomical and quite impossible temperature!

# Settling the Problem of Old Kashmir

WHAT is probably the most difficult voting plan ever devised has been decided on by the United Nations in order to settle the dispute between India and Pakistan over the mountainous and lovely land of Kashmir.

The organisers of the proposed plebiscite will this year face a task far more intricate than would be the case in any normal and civilised area. Kashmir's four million people are mainly illiterate and they live, moreover, in some of the most secluded valleys in all the world. Towering above the beautiful central valley of Kashmir are some of the world's loftiest mountains, perpetually covered with snow, including the giant Nanga Parbat.

The people are divided between two great faiths, Hindu and Moslem, the majority being Moslems, but a thousand years ago the land of Kashmir was a Hindu kingdom, and the old bitterness between conquerors and conquered has flared up since the partition of India.

Living in small communities, in tiny mountain hamlets, the Kashmir people will probably have to be called on personally by United Nations observers in order to record their votes; but it is a method which may take nearly twelve months to complete.

Up to a year or so ago, there were only three main routes into Kashmir from the outside world; but engineers have just completed another road from Amritsar to Jammu which, however, has no bridges, and the fords are only passable in dry weather. These roads and a railway lead into Kashmir from the Pakistan side of the frontier, and this, to many people, gives an extra claim to Pakistan for the possession of Kashmir. In addition, this lovely land is in a strategic position for the defence of Pakistan because it guards the lines of communica-

tion from Lahore to Peshawar which lead on to the vital Khyber Pass into Afghanistan.

From the earliest times the men of Kashmir have been great soldiers, enlisting with enthusiasm into the British Indian army. In the last war over 60,000 of them served in the fighting ranks, and in the Pakistan army there are 15,000 men from Kashmir.

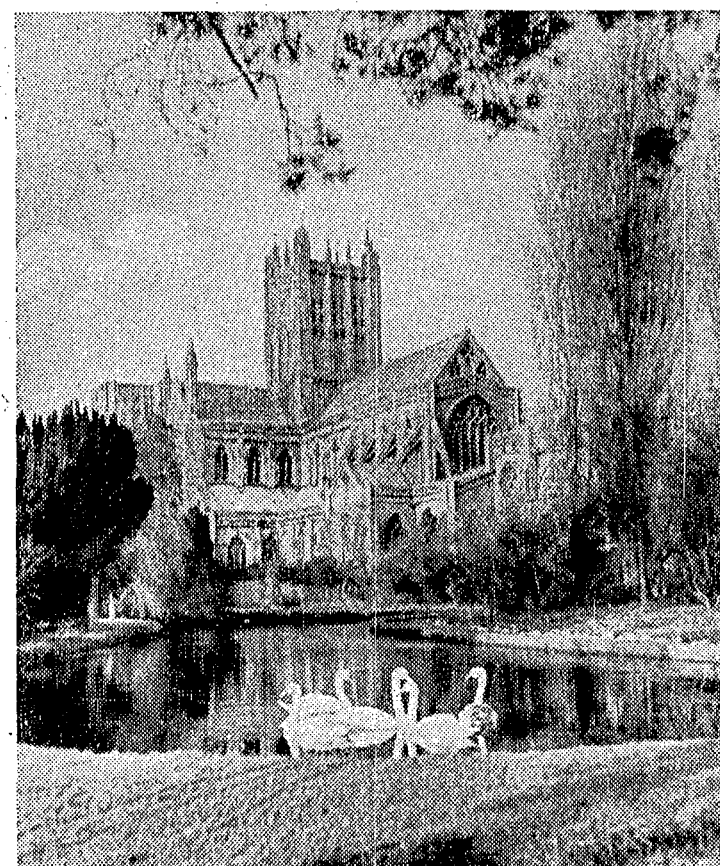
Experts believe that the voting papers will have to be illustrated with symbols representing India and Pakistan so that those who cannot read will still understand what they are voting for. Voting will be a new experience for these people of the Himalayan mountains who know the power of the sword better than that of the pen. But their decision will help to settle one of the most awkward of the problems facing the new dominions of Pakistan and India.

## RAILWAY DOGS

BRITISH Railways employ fifteen sheep-dogs in the valleys of Wales to keep the lines free from straying sheep.

These dogs are trained by the permanent-way gangers to respond to whistles, to hand-signals, and to commands given in Welsh. When a train is approaching a dog will give the gangers working on the line a warning bark, and it will not leave the line until all the men are clear.

The dogs live with the gangers who train them from puppyhood for the work, but the dog-licence is paid by British Railways.



THIS ENGLAND

Wells Cathedral, Somerset, seen from the south-east

## Art and a Roll of Butter

### KINDLING THE SPARK

ONE of our contemporaries recently had a cartoon of a coster carrying his supper forth from a fried fish shop. A glance shows him that his fish and chips are wrapped in a page of a famous weekly highbrow literary paper, but in pretended delight he exclaims "Goodie!" He has found treasure!

Now, in actual life a similar discovery was made during the latter part of last century by Elizabeth Siddal, a beautiful girl of 17, living with her widowed mother in London. She found one day that the roll of butter she was carrying home had been wrapped in pages from a volume of Tennyson's poems. Her study of the fragment awoke in her an appreciation of beauty and stirred the artistic spirit that hitherto had lain dormant in her nature. But she had to earn her living.

### The Young Model

She worked in a milliner's shop near Leicester Square, and there, seated at work, a picture of youthful grace and dignity, blue-eyed and with hair a glory of coppery gold, she was seen one day by a young artist named Walter Deverell, who persuaded the girl's mother to induce her to sit to him as a model.

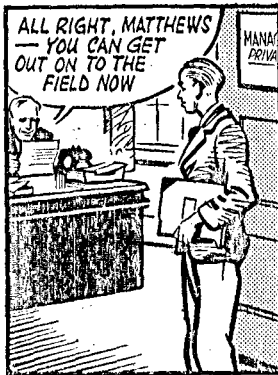
Elizabeth Siddal afterwards served Millais as model for Ophelia, one of the most famous of his pictures, and later, after sitting for him many times as model, she married Dante Gabriel Rossetti. Again and again she figured in his paintings and sketches, and as she sat quietly in his studio her own artistic faculties ripened.

She sketched and painted, and she wrote poetry, much praised in its day, although almost forgotten now. Nevertheless, her artistic work served to bring happiness into her sad, short life, and it is strange to reflect that the original inspiration of it all lay in those sheets of Tennyson's poems in which she carried home a humble roll of butter.

## Steps to Sporting Fame



England's outside right in more than 50 Soccer international matches, Stanley Matthews has borne out all his boyhood promise.



A star at school, he joined the staff of Stoke City F.C. as an office-boy and was given every opportunity and encouragement to develop his astonishing football skill under expert eyes.

## Stanley Matthews



It was no surprise to his friends when he was chosen to play for England at the age of 19. His genius has been acclaimed in many countries since he entered the international arena.



Stanley joined Blackpool after the war. Nearing the end of his great career, he now does all he can to help young players and took part in an instructional film made by the F.A.

## More Than Coffee in Brazil

### THERE'S LOTS OF OIL, TOO

To those who think of Brazil as a country which produces only coffee it will come as a surprise to hear that she is now developing as an industrial nation, especially in the petroleum industry. For the past ten years this industry has been under federal control.

Brazil has been obtaining oil-refineries and other equipment by means of what are called "frozen credits." These are large sums of money belonging to Brazil, which are lying in the banks of various European countries, and which the governments of those countries cannot, for the time being, allow to be taken away.

For example, Brazil owned four thousand million francs "frozen" in France. Out of some of this money she has, by agreement, purchased from France an oil refinery, equipment for an oil refinery, and 90 railway engines. Similarly, from other countries which hold her "frozen credits" Brazil hopes to purchase a fleet of oil tankers.

### Five-Year Plan

Brazil is also carrying out an ambitious five-year scheme, called the Salte plan, which aims at raising the level of production by improved health services, better transport facilities, and more scientific methods in agriculture.

This scheme will, it is hoped, raise the standard of living of the Brazilian people, which is at present too low to support a greater degree of industrialisation.

Other schemes include the improvement of port facilities at Santos and the development of civil aviation throughout Brazil.

That Britain is helping in this development is evident from the fact that she supplied about ten per cent of all Brazil's imports during the first seven months of 1948, a big increase over the previous year. British diesel-engined omnibuses, for example, are being used to improve the transport system of the great city of Sao Paulo.

All reports agree that British goods are warmly welcomed in Brazil.

## WHEN BATH NIGHT WAS TUB NIGHT

THE will has just been proved of a London hotel-keeper who used to boast that he was the first man in the world to build a hotel in which every guest's bedroom had its own bathroom attached.

The Americans, who are supposed to lead the world in the matter of hotels, did not set an example regarding bathrooms, but borrowed the idea of a bathroom for every bedroom from this London hotel.

Mr Bernard Shaw told not long ago how, during many years'

London residence, first in the Adelphi and afterwards at another famous part of the West End, he never had a bathroom. Nowhere in the metropolis were there domestic bathrooms. Later, hotels, as they were modernised or newly built, had bathrooms as items of which they were proud to boast, but at that time none of them had enough.

Before David Lloyd George became Premier in 1916, Number 10 Downing Street had never had a bath with running hot and cold water. None of the Prime Ministers who, during the preceding two centuries, had lived at Number 10 had been more favoured. It was Mrs Lloyd George who created the revolution of having a bathroom specially built at the Prime Minister's house.

Even a modest modern cottage can now have its snug little bathroom, but in the earlier days not the greatest of nobleman's mansions, nor even Buckingham Palace, had such an addition to comfort.

In the absence of bathrooms did our ancestors never bath? They did. Although they had no hot and cold water brought by pipes and taps to their rooms, they had their morning "tub" as it was called—a bath in the bedroom or the adjoining dressing-

room. In more modest homes it was usually a tub in the kitchen at night.

Every great house had its battery of hip-baths, one of which was delivered each morning to every guest, and filled with hot and cold water from vessels carried from sinks at the end of each corridor.

Unlike the hotel in question we do not need a bathroom for every house bedroom, but the bathroom for every modern private dwelling is today as much a matter of course as the wireless.

### BIRD BANQUET

HUNDREDS of birds have been having a wonderful winter feast specially set out for them at the porch of Princes Street Congregational Church at Gravesend in Kent.

After a sheaf of corn had helped to decorate the church for the harvest festival it was stored away, with the idea of providing winter food for hungry birds.

Now, in mid-winter, the sheaf has been hanging over the porch of the church, with a constant stream of eager, twittering birds about it, to provide a most interesting sight for all who pass that way.

### CLEAN FOOD

FOLLOWING a recent proposal of the Mayor of Lambeth, the "Lambeth Clean Food Association" has been started by the Council. Certificates stating that the holders have "taken reasonable precautions to safeguard against contamination all food sold or exposed for sale," will be issued to those who qualify.

Among the principles are the scrubbing of hands and nails before beginning work, the prohibition of smoking during preparation and handling of food, and scrupulous cleanliness of premises, fittings, and utensils.

It is to be hoped that this idea will spread to all parts of the country.

## THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS—Lewis Carroll's Delightful Fantasy, Told in Pictures



Alice helped the Knight on to his horse and they set off together. "I hope you've got your hair well fastened on," he said. "Only in the usual way," replied Alice. "That's hardly enough," he said. "The wind here is as strong as soup." Alice asked, "Have you a plan for keeping one's hair from being blown off?" He answered, "No, but I've got a plan to keep it from falling off."



"First you take an upright stick," he explained. "Then you make your hair creep up it, like a fruit tree. Now the reason hair falls off is because it hangs down—things never fall upwards, you know." After this he kept falling off and Alice had to help him on again. "I'm afraid you haven't had much practice in riding," she said. "I've had plenty of practice," he replied gravely—and fell off again!



To change the subject Alice praised the helmet hanging from his saddle. "I've invented a better one," he said. "When I wear it, if I fall off, it touches the ground directly. So I have not far to fall. But there is the danger of falling into it. That happened once and another knight came and put it on, thinking it was his own, with me inside it. He soon took it off, but it took hours to get me out."



Then the Knight fell headlong into a ditch and Alice had to drag him out by his feet. "Here I must leave you," he said. "You've only a few yards to go and you'll be a Queen." Excitedly Alice realised that she was at last near the 8th square of this strange Chessboard-country. She had been told that she would become a Queen on reaching it. She shook hands with the Knight and hurried off.

Final Instalment Next Week, When a Picture-Version of Scott's Great Story of Rob Roy will Begin



# The King Who Defied Parliament



A medal struck to commemorate Charles the First

Just 300 years ago one of the most dramatic scenes in Britain's history was witnessed—a king stepped out from a window in Whitehall uttering the words, "I go from a corruptible to an incorruptible crown, where there will be no trouble," and prepared to meet his end.

THE never-to-be-forgotten words quoted above were spoken by the unhappy Charles the First, King of Great Britain and Ireland, as he was escorted to the execution block outside the royal palace on January 30, 1649. So ended a king's reign fraught with more blunders than that of any other English king.

King Charles's execution was the climax of strenuous efforts of

the people during 12 years to limit the powers of the monarchy.

Charles succeeded his father, James I, in 1625 at the age of 25. One of his first acts was to marry the Princess Henrietta Maria, daughter of Henry IV of France, and a Roman Catholic, thus arousing the hostility of his Protestant subjects.

That was his first serious mistake and it was followed by many

others. He called upon Parliament to provide him with extra revenues so that an old war with Spain and a new war with France could be continued, but Parliament would not accede to his wishes. On the contrary, it confronted Charles with many complaints regarding his irresponsible government. Its members showed such a keen spirit of popular liberty that Charles, in a fit of indignation, saw fit to dissolve Parliament, and for 11 years he ruled without one.

He violated many liberties which Englishmen held dear, levying "tonnage and poundage" duties, imposing fines for encroaching on forest land and for not taking up knighthood, demanding "ship money"—an ancient practice that compelled the people to grant him money for building and fitting out ships for war. He also drove the Scots to rebellion by attempting to introduce a new Book of Common Prayer into the Scottish Church.

In the end Charles found himself compelled to recall Parliament because, in spite of his drastic acts to raise money for the upkeep of the army and navy, his financial resources became exhausted. The Short Parliament was summoned in April 1640, but it lasted only three weeks because it refused to discuss money matters until complaints against the king had been debated. So Charles promptly dismissed it, but later in that year he summoned a second Parliament known as the Long Parliament. From that date, until Charles

was placed on trial, an unceasing struggle was waged between King and Parliament, culminating in civil war, with the Royalists on the one side and the Parliamentarians on the other. The forces of the Parliamentarians were led by Oliver Cromwell, whose brilliant military strategy finally brought about the utter defeat of the Royalists at Naseby in 1645.

The civil war had raged for four years, but even then Charles would not accept defeat and agree to the relinquishing of many of his kingly powers. If he had done so he would have escaped with his life. Instead, he continued to plot and scheme for the overthrow of his powerful enemies, and in particular Oliver Cromwell, the head of the Parliamentary army, but in the end was forced to surrender.

Brought before a so-called High Court of Justice at Westminster Hall on January 20, 1649, the king was accused of having waged and renewed war upon his people, and of attempting to establish tyranny in place of the limited regal powers with which he had been entrusted.

However grave had been his



Charles the First in his happy days, as seen by Van Dyck

political blunders throughout his disastrous reign, King Charles I revealed himself as a man of great personal courage both at his trial and on the scaffold. Alone, and despised by his judges in Westminster Hall, he stood up to them unflinchingly, stoutly denying their authority to try him. They condemned him to death, and on January 30, 1649, outside his own banqueting hall in Whitehall, he met his fate bravely—Nothing in his life became him like the leaving it.

## CHAMPION OF THE PEOPLE

ALL the world respects a man who, in spite of all opposition, holds fast to principles which he believes to be right and true. Such a man was Charles James Fox, one of the greatest orators of all time, who was born just 200 years ago—on January 24, 1749—third and much-indulged son of the first Lord Holland.

While still at Eton, young Charles Fox acted as a page at the coronation of George III, and no one could have foreseen that the young aristocrat would later cause such acute vexation to his Royal master.

He was only 19 when he entered the House of Commons as Member for Midhurst in Sussex, but he soon became distinguished for honesty and straight dealing, and early made his mark in debate, even in a House which contained the famous Edmund Burke.

Fox at first supported the party of the "King's Friends," the unprincipled politicians whose votes were controlled by the Royal purse; but soon, as he moved into opposition, the king wrote to Prime Minister North disapproving of the rising young orator.

The first big test came over the question of the American Colonies whose sturdy inhabitants objected to the decision of the King's Ministers to tax them. Fox declared that it was wrong to tax people in an assembly in which they were not represented, and that this policy could only result in rebellion.

During the unhappy war which followed Fox was ever ready to advise an understanding with the rebellious colonists, describing the Prime Minister, Lord North, as a "blundering pilot," and chastising him so severely in one speech that the Noble Lord was reduced to tears!

When at length the war ended in the independence of America, Lord North's government fell and Fox entered the new administration. Now the king was thoroughly alarmed, considering himself a "prisoner in his own

palace," and, it is said, threatening to abdicate.

However, a few months later Fox was in opposition again, supporting the famous Dunning resolution "That the influence of the Crown has increased, is increasing and ought to be diminished." Sensing that the King really was assuming more power than the constitution allowed him, the people rallied behind Fox. They called him the Tribune of the People, and Burke described him as the Man born to be Loved.

In the July days of 1789 the French Revolution broke out. It received immediate support from Fox. "How much the greatest event it is that ever happened! And how much the best!" he declared when the news of the fall of the Bastille reached him. Not even the horrors of the later stages of the revolution could change his opinions, and he continued to press for a peaceful settlement of the differences between Britain and France right up to the outbreak of war between the two countries.

Now, as Fox's life drew towards its close, old enmities began to fade. In 1806, a few months before his death, he again took office in the so-called Ministry of All the Talents.

His last speech in the Commons was in support of the Bill to abolish the Slave Trade. "If during almost 40 years that I have had the honour of a seat in Parliament I had been so fortunate as to accomplish that, and that only, I should think I had done enough, and could retire from public life with comfort and the conscious satisfaction that I had done my duty."

Three weeks later Charles James Fox was laid to rest in Westminster Abbey, and perhaps the most sincere of all the many tributes paid to his memory came from the man who had been his bitterest foe. "I never thought I should have regretted the death of Mr Fox so much as I do," wrote His Majesty King George the Third.



Charles James Fox

## He Tamed the Nile For Egypt

"It would be difficult to exaggerate the debt of gratitude which the people of Egypt owe to Sir William Garstin," wrote the first Lord Cromer, maker of modern Egypt, of the man who had helped to modernise it and so make a bankrupt nation a land of plenty once more.

On January 29, 100 years ago, William Garstin was born in India, son of a Civil Servant there. He came home for education at Cheltenham and King's College, London; then, returning East, served for 13 years in the Indian Public Works Department.

### Exploring the Nile

At 36 he was transferred, as a specially valuable man, to Egypt, where he later became Inspector-General of Irrigation, afterwards adding to his cares the responsibility of Under-Secretary of State for public works. It was the Nile, on which Egypt depends for her very life, that formed the chief object of Garstin's labours. He explored it from source to delta.

Of a 7000-mile expedition that he undertook, 700 of it marching through terrible country, he presented a brilliantly written re-

port, which was marred in the telling by the sad fact that the enterprise had cost the lives of two of his three white companions, dead of malaria.

All his studies convinced Garstin that with so vast a loss of Nile water through the enormous swamps, and still more from evaporation, the water of the lower river must be stored in prodigious quantities during the annual flood, and distributed through irrigation canals when the river reached its lowest levels. The result was his magnificent Aswan Dam and its associated reservoir, two titanic works that proceeded together. In addition, Garstin caused the clearing of the White Nile of its floating forests of rotting vegetation, called sudd, which, home of the crocodile and the hippopotamus, made navigation difficult or absolutely impossible.

### The Aswan Dam

The engineering of the barrage and the reservoir involved problems of the utmost complexity. The Aswan dam, constructed three miles south of the town, is a mile and a quarter in length,

90 feet thick at the base and 90 feet high, and is pierced by 180 great sluice gates. There had been no structure in Egypt so immense since the days when the Pharaohs had an entire subject nation upon which to draw for the building of the Pyramids. While the great granite dam was rising, Egyptian natives were engaged near at hand drawing water from the river just as their ancestors had drawn it 5000 years before.

### Just a Beginning

Great as was this undertaking and superb as were the results, it was to be but a beginning, an opening of the road to goals of achievement yet to be sought. Even so, this barrage should for ever keep the name of William Garstin green and fragrant in Egyptian memories. The story of what he did, thrilling and extraordinary, would make a book as exciting as a novel, with results as beneficial as a vision of prosperity such as wise leaders of people dream of and are sometimes so happy and fortunate as to bring to reality.

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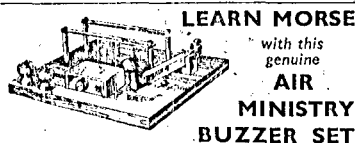


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## WHISTLING TREES

### Music of the Wind

This extract from an article by Frank A. King on Musical Trees and Other Forest Curiosities is taken, by permission, from the attractive Winter number of Trees, Journal of the Men of the Trees.

THE musical tree is to be found in the islands of the West Indies; it has a peculiarly-shaped leaf, and pods with a split or open edge. The wind passing through these forms the sound which gives the tree its strange name.

In Barbados there is a valley filled with these trees, and when the trade winds blow across the island a constant, moaning deep-toned whistle is heard from it, which, in the still hours of the night, has a very weird and unpleasant effect.

A species of acacia, growing abundantly in the Sudan, is also called the whistling tree. Its shoots are frequently, by the agency of insects, distorted in shape and swollen into a small globular bladder. After the insect has emerged from a circular hole in the side of the swelling, the opening, played upon by the wind, becomes a musical instrument, equal in sound to the flute.

### Strange Sounds

In the great forests of Nubia grows a tree from which, when swayed by the wind, come strange sounds, like the notes of a penny whistle. This vocal tree is regarded with superstitious awe and terror by the natives, and it was indeed a puzzle to everyone who had heard the mysterious sounds, until some scientific traveller investigated the matter.

He found that at certain seasons of the year hordes of insects deposited their eggs on the young shoots and extremities of the branches. These produced gall-like excrescences about an inch in diameter. When the young insects emerged, small holes were left in the galls. The wind, blowing through these little apertures, caused the strange noises. This is probably the only instance of a tree which bears ready-made whistles! It is called the "tsotar."

## Wettest and Driest in 1948

MANY parts of Britain last year had more than their average amount of rainfall, writes Dr John Glasspoole in The Times. The nicest place for ducks and frogs was Loch Eck, north-west of Greenock in Scotland, where the rainfall was 153 per cent of local average, and the place least favoured by the splashing and quacking fraternities was a district east of Norwich, where the rainfall was 81 per cent of average.

The most rained-on parts were in the south-west of Scotland, and the driest were the eastern coastal region of England from about Hartlepool right round to the neighbourhood of Portsmouth, including most of London.

Manchester, where according to comedians umbrellas are seldom furred, had 33.05 inches of rain, slightly more than average. But Birmingham had 33.91 inches, and Cardiff 50.08!

## Snow For Hot-Water Pipes

### NEW "MATE" FOR THE PLUMBER

PLUMBERS and sanitary engineers are now finding snow very useful. "Snow" is the name given in the trade for the solid carbon dioxide which looks like lumps of crushed ice and is used for packing round ice-cream containers and frozen foods, being much colder than real ice.

Formerly, when a plumber repaired a leaking or burst water pipe he had to turn the water off at the main and drain any water tanks, which might mean that a large building would be without water for several hours. Now that is unnecessary. Having located the leak, the plumber takes a pound or so of snow, which he can get cheaply from any cold-storage plant, and packs it around the pipe, holding it in place with strips of sacking. He takes care not to touch it with bare fingers, for it is cold enough to give a touch of frost bite—a sensation very like burning! The snow freezes the water in the pipe, forming a solid plug of ice.

The plumber is then able to cut away the damaged pipe and solder on the new piece while the water is held back. When the packing is removed the ice plug melts and the water runs through again. Solid carbon dioxide evaporates into carbon-dioxide gas without going through a liquid state. In vaporising it can produce temperatures a hundred times colder than ice.

## John and Ann Are Popular Names

NAMES given to boys and girls born last year are set out in their order of popularity by Mr J. W. Leaver in a recent letter to The Times. The writer made his list from announcements of births in that newspaper.

The boys' names in order of popularity, were: John, David, Michael, Peter, Richard, Christopher, Charles, Anthony, Robert, James. The girls' names in the same order were: Ann or Anne, Mary, Elizabeth, Jane, Susan, Margaret, Penelope, Caroline, Frances, Sarah.

Paul, Hugh, Catherine, and Angela were gaining in popularity, while William and Jennifer showed a decline.

It would be sad if "good old Bill" died out, but no doubt "good old Charlie" will make great headway this year.

## STARTED TENNIS AT SEVEN

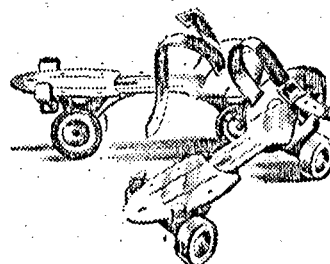
FRANK MOTT-TRILLE, a 19-year-old Jamaican who is a law student at Oxford University, recently leapt into the lawn tennis limelight by beating our John Horn at the British Junior winter meeting, and then completing a brilliant double by defeating Brian Ward of Middlesex.

Like all Jamaicans, Mott-Trille is a natural sportsman. He admits that he has never had a day's coaching, although he started to learn lawn tennis when he was only seven.

He will be studying at Oxford for five years, so we shall hear much more of this hard-hitting young Jamaican.



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# How Do We Catch Colds?

## Fighting an Unseen Foe

FOR two and a half years a joint research team of the Medical Research Council and the Ministry of Health have been trying to find out how and why people catch colds; now a report of their work, compiled by Dr C. H. Andrews, a leading member of the team, has been issued.

Much of the investigation was carried out at Harvard Hospital, Salisbury, where some seven hundred volunteers have taken part in a great experiment. After spending some days in isolation, to make sure they were free from colds, infected drops were put into their nostrils and they were then carefully watched to see if a cold developed. In some cases it did; in others it did not. Research was also made on the spread of colds by the waving of infected handkerchiefs and by sneezing.

But the common cold still remains somewhat of a mystery. Many diseases in their early stages have similar symptoms. Then, perhaps, there is more than one sort of cold. At any rate, the investigators have decided that the infection is carried by the minutest of viruses, which can pass through a filter and is readily spread by waving an infected handkerchief. The investigators proved that this scattering of the virus could be reduced by 95 per cent if the handkerchief were treated with some suitable medicament.

How long can the virus of the cold live? Here the results are conflicting. The inhabitants of Tristan da Cunha are liable to catch cold from the crews of ships coming from Cape Town, twelve days' sail away, but not from those coming round the more distant Cape Horn. Colds virtually disappear from Spitsbergen in about a fortnight after the last ship leaves in October, and remain almost non-existent

until the next ship arrives the following May. On the other hand, an epidemic sometimes appears following the opening of a bale of sacks stored away for some months and then opened; and cultures of the virus have remained alive for months at temperatures of 76 degrees centigrade below freezing.

As in the case of many other infections, a cold can be transmitted by carriers of the virus who are themselves unaffected; thus epidemics have appeared in Spitsbergen in May although no one on the visiting vessel was apparently suffering from one.

As Dr Andrew states in his report, "the gaps in our knowledge are very great, and the Ministry of Health is calling for more pairs of volunteers between the ages of 18 and 40 to come forward for experiments."

## Singapore's Rickshaws

SINGAPORE has lost its rickshaws. The Singapore Labour Annual Report states that alternative transport has been supplied by licensing 800 trishaws, which are rickshaws pulled by cyclists instead of running men. It is said, however, that it is debatable whether pedalling a rickshaw causes less physical strain than pulling a rickshaw.

## POSTSCRIPT

A KITTEN crept into a mailbag at Pretoria and travelled safely the 560 miles to Port Elizabeth.

# Work of Our Hands

## TRIBUTE TO BATTLE OF BRITAIN MEN

A STRIKING memorial window was unveiled recently to commemorate the heroes of the Battle of Britain in 1940. The window is in the Rolls-Royce factory at Derby, where the Merlin engines were made that powered the Hurricanes and Spitfires in which the Few fought.

The inscription beneath the window breathes the spirit of the memorial in these words: Commemorating the pilots of the Royal Air Force, who in the Battle of Britain turned the work of our hands into the salvation of our country.

The window was unveiled by Marshal of the RAF Lord Tedder and dedicated by the Bishop of Derby. It shows a fighter pilot in flying kit standing on the spinner of an airscrew. Behind his head is a golden eagle, and below him are the buildings of the Rolls-Royce factory. The window was designed by Mr Hugh Easton, who was also responsible for the Battle of Britain memorial window in Westminster Abbey.

## The More the Merrier

THERE is no reason why Australia should not have a population of 20,000,000 within the lifetime of the average Australian, recently declared Mr Calwell, the Minister for Immigration.

At present the population of Australia is about 7,630,000, but Mr Calwell also said that in proportion to her population Australia's was the greatest planned immigration programme the world had ever seen.

It is expected that between 70,000 and 80,000 people will leave the United Kingdom for Australia this year. The first big party of 1949 emigrants, the largest ever to sail in one ship from Britain to Australia, left Liverpool not long ago in the liner *Georgic*. They were 2010 people, including 400 children. All the workers had jobs waiting for them, and all were assured of accommodation.

## CHIMNEYPIECE

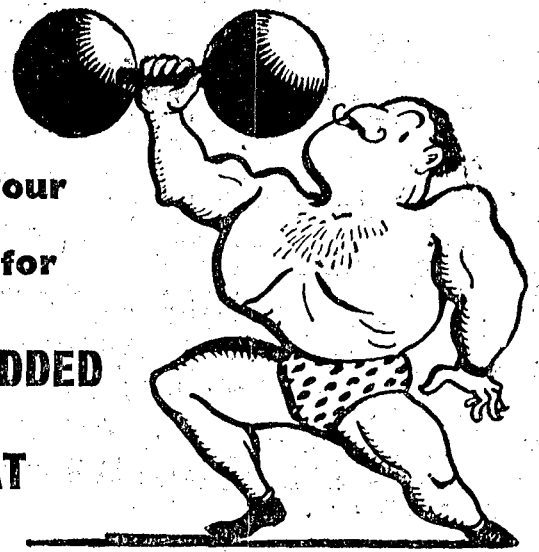
THREE men heard a cat crying in the reading-room of the Club and Institute at Callington, Cornwall. They peered all round the room and peeped outside the door—but there was no cat! Yet the crying went on just the same. The men were completely mystified and looked at each other bewilderingly.

Then someone suggested looking up the fireplace chimney!

A gas fire was burning merrily in the grate, but they soon removed it and shone an electric torch up the dark chimney. There, sure enough, was a cat, perched on a ledge looking down at them; he was sooty all over, and crying piteously.

Stretching his arm at full length, one of the men managed to grab Master Thomas and bring him to a lower level. Then the cat helped himself by jumping clear, taking a lot of soot with him—the sweep!

A half-grown black and white (when not in chimneys), Master Thomas had been missing for two days.



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## BEDTIME CORNER

### Mr Portly Goes Adventuring



MR PORTLY was miserable. Ann and Christopher were at school, and Mummie was out, so there was no

one to let him in. And he was very thirsty because he had hurried off before finishing his breakfast milk.

"Miaow!" he cried as he met Tinkle on the wall.

"What? Want a drink, and can't get in?" Tinkle exclaimed. "Neither can I. But I'll soon show you what to do. Follow me!"

So, filled with curiosity, Mr Portly followed his friend along the walls until they came to a house with green window-sills.

Tinkle hopped on each in turn and peered through the windows. Then he said: "No go, young Portly. Come on!"

So Mr Portly followed again till they came to a house with blue window-sills. Tinkle did the same here. But... "No go, young Portly," he said at last. "Come on!"

Then, puzzled, Mr Portly followed him once more till they came to a house with

white window-sills. Up leapt Tinkle again, but in a second he was jumping down.

"Hop up, young Portly," he said. "And mew your hardest. You'll be all right." Then off he trotted before he could be questioned.

So up leapt Mr Portly and mewed his hardest. And the next minute the window was opened and a kind old lady lifted him in and set him down before a lovely fire.

"I haven't seen you before," she said. "But I expect Tinkle brought you, the rascal!" Then she gave him some milk just as she always did Tinkle when he called there. And presently happy Mr Portly trotted back home.

"How did you know which house to try?" he asked Tinkle when next he met him.



"Looked in to see if someone was in the room, silly! Otherwise, it's no go," Tinkle answered. "Remember that!"



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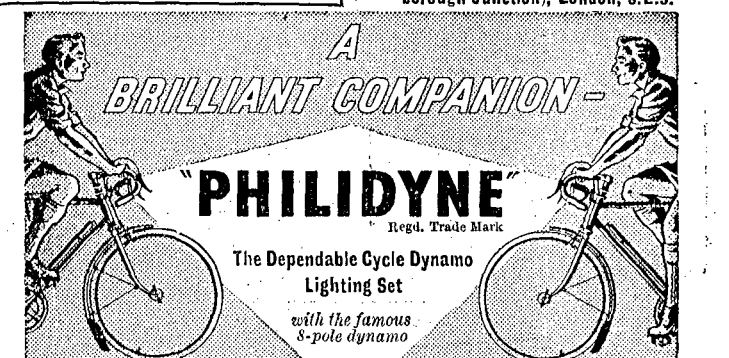


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## THE BRAN TUB

### THE DIFFERENCE

THE local theatre had not been prospering of late.

"What we need," said the manager, "is a drama that will fill the audience with tears."

"On the contrary," said the leading man. "What we need is a drama that will fill the tiers with audience."

### Testing a Diamond

HERE is a simple method of discovering whether a supposed diamond is genuine.

First see that the diamond is quite dry, then place on it a tiny drop of water. Now try to move the drop with the point of a needle.

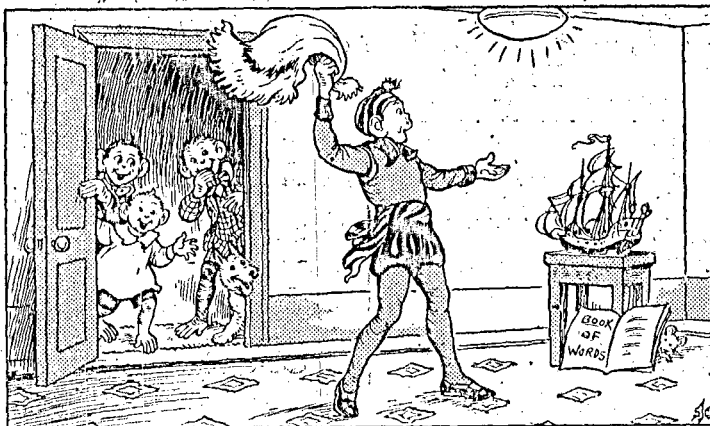
If the diamond is genuine the drop can be rolled about intact. If the gem is an imitation the water spreads as soon as it is touched with the needle-point.

### FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

Rare Crossbills. High in the pine trees a beautifully-coloured bird drew Don's attention. The plumage on its back was a deep red, almost crimson, while its wings were brown. With a single "Tit!" it vanished from view.

"It was about six inches long," Don told Farmer Gray. "A crossbill undoubtedly," said the farmer. "These attractive birds are rare in England, mainly due to persecution by egg collectors. In the pine and larch forests of Scotland they are plentiful. The odd manner in which the mandibles are crossed gives the bird its name. It also enables crossbills to rip up cones and extract the seeds easily."

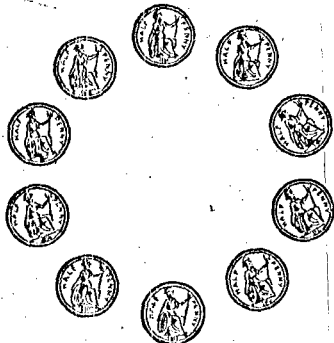
## Caught in the Act



JACKO's brother Adolphus, a leading light in the local dramatic society, often rehearsed his part at home. On one occasion, when he was playing the part of a masterful buccaneer, his ringing tones brought Jacko, Chimp, and Baby to investigate. The sight of Adolphus, in his trunk hose, was too much for them, though, and they just roared with laughter. But they did not have the last laugh, for Adolphus soon proved that his old-time dress did not stop him giving the usual big-brotherly correction.

### A COIN PROBLEM

HERE is a little coin problem which you can try out on your friends. Place ten half-pennies in the manner shown below and ask your friend to turn all but one over by the following method: Beginning at any



coin and calling it No 1, the next No 2, and so on, turning the fourth coin. Then he should begin another count of four coins and turn the fourth, continuing in this way until all but one are reversed. He must not start counting at any coin that has been turned, but turned coins may be included in his counting.

Starting anywhere count four coins and turn the fourth coin. Then count four more coins, counting in this way.

### A Near Thing

TWO Americans were discussing their family trees.

"Did your ancestors come over in the Mayflower?" asked one.

"Not exactly," replied the other, "but I'm told that one of them ran for the boat and just missed it."

### POINTS OF VIEW

A CROWD had gathered to watch the fire brigade at work.

"Isn't it terrible to see that lovely house burning like that?" remarked an onlooker.

"Yes," agreed another, a fuel efficiency expert, "just think of all the heat energy that's been absolutely wasted."

### POOR PERCY

POOR Percy on the ice one day Tried hard to emulate A chappie doing, with such ease, A perfect figure eight.

Percy persevered—whirled round and round With legs spread wide asunder; He whirled so fast he carved a hole And through the gap went under.

### What is This Town?

IN the tow but not in the pull; In the ox but not in the bull; In the beef but not in the pork; In the stroll but not in the walk; In the grin but not in the smile; In the yard but not in the mile. Full marks from us you will be earning For this town's name—a seat of learning.

### Other Worlds

IN the evening Uranus is in the south and Saturn is low in the east. In the morning Venus is low in the south-east and Saturn is in the south-west. The picture shows the Moon at 8 o'clock on Wednesday morning, January 26.



## The Children's Hour

BBC Programmes from Wednesday, January 26, to Tuesday February 1.

WEDNESDAY, 5.0 Set to Music (No 1). 5.30 For Your Bookshelf. North, 5.0 Children's Concert. Scottish, 5.30 Book Review. Welsh, 5.0 Tomos and the Ghost—a story.

THURSDAY, 5.0 The Stormy Petrel (4). Midland, 5.0 Catch that Spider! (4); A Country Talk; Songs. Scottish, 5.0 The Birdman's Quiz; Behind the Waterfall (4). Welsh, 5.30 Applejohn's Adventure; Fleet Saved by Moonshine.

FRIDAY, 5.0 Reynard and the Grey-Lag—a story. 5.15 Golden Pavements (3). North, 5.0 Commonwealth Affairs—a talk.

SATURDAY, 5.0 The Scarecrows of Scatterbrook (2). 5.40 Adventures in Spain—a travel talk.

Midland, 5.0 Midland Magazine; George Dixon Grammar School, Birmingham, Boys' Choir. North, 5.0 Stuff and Nonsense; Puzzles.

SUNDAY, 5.0 Rock of Ages (2). N. Ireland, 5.0 The Fate of the Children of Lyr—a play; Big Men, Wee Men—a story. Scottish, 5.0 The Two Scottish Brothers.

MONDAY, 5.0 Blitty and the Bears (5). 5.15 Young Artists. 5.35 How to Listen to Opera (3). Midland, 5.15 Banbury Co-operative Junior Choir. North, 5.0 Sing-Song; A story; Competition Results; The Merchant Navy. Scottish, 5.0 Games and a Play.

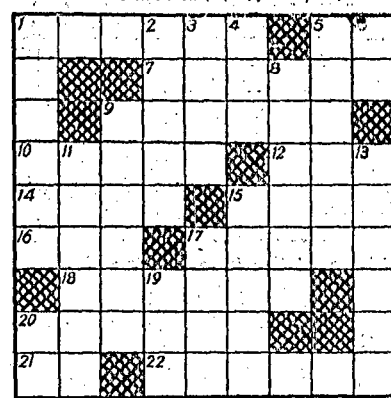
TUESDAY, 5.0 A Norman and Henry Bones story. 5.40 Competition Results. North, 5.40 Current Affairs. Scottish, 5.40 Zoo Man.

## Cross Word Puzzle

Reading Across. 1 A biographical notice. 5 In this manner. 7 To put at the beginning of another thing. 9 Men and women. 10 Prickly growth on a plant. 12 Poisonous snake. 14 A jot or tittle. 15 A very little quantity. 16 A hint on which to act. 17 Mixed raw vegetables. 18 Molluscs. 20 To cover a roof again. 21 Editor. 22 The bull does this to a victim.

Reading Down. 1 Occult. 2 Musical drama. 3 Common metal. 4 A ribbed fabric. 5 A midday rest. 6 A bovine animal. 8 Hand instruments for threshing corn. 9 Powerful. 11 Provided with a dwelling. 13 Levers pressed down by the feet. 15 Men. 17 A pit or tower for preserving green fodder. 19 Small island in a river. 20 Royal Engineers.

Asterisks indicate abbreviations. Answer next week.



### Where's the Knife?

ENTERING a barn on his first visit to a farm Billy saw a pitchfork.

"Is that what horses eat their hay with?" he asked.

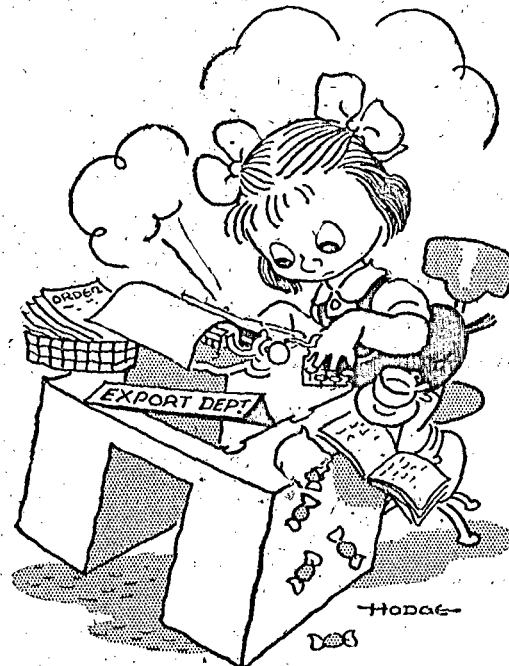
### SAGE SAW

THE hand that gives gathers.

### LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

What is this Town? Glasgow. Odd Arithmetic. 45 (XLV). Take away 50 (L), leaving 15 (XV).

## BRITAIN'S NEED IS SPEED!



Sharp's THE WORD FOR Toffee

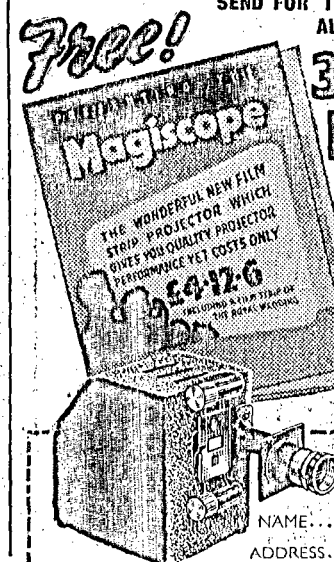
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